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# DELAWARE RIVER STEVEDORES, INC.

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September 20, 2005

Docket Clerk  
Marketing Order Administration Branch  
Fruit and Vegetable Programs  
AMS, USDA  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
STOP 0237  
Washington, DC 20250-0237

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RE: Docket No. FV03-925-1PR  
Federal Register Vol.70, No. 100, Page 30001  
Grapes Grown in a Designated Area of Southeastern California and Imported  
Table Grapes; Proposed Change in Regulatory Period  
**COMMENTS IN OPPOSITION TO PROPOSED CHANGE**

Dear Docket Clerk:

Delaware River Stevedores opposes the above referenced change in the dates that Table Grape Marketing Order 925 restrictions will be place on table grapes supplied from Chile. Delaware River Stevedores is a Terminal Operator and stevedoring company handling over fifty (50) vessels of Chilean fruit during the six (6) month period of December through May. During this period Delaware River Stevedores handles over ten (10) million cases of Chilean fruit that results in hundreds of thousands of man-hours with a very significant, positive impact on the local economy. Changing the marketing order from April 20<sup>th</sup> to April 1<sup>st</sup> is without merit and lacks quantifiable reasoning. Delaware River Stevedores is the largest ILA employer on the Delaware River with a strong interest in the Chilean fruit business as a source of jobs and revenue to sustain Tioga Fruit Terminal. Changing the marketing order to April 1<sup>st</sup> is detrimental to our company, the region, and the hundreds of family's dependent on this business for their livelihood. We respectfully insist that the marketing order remain April 20<sup>th</sup>.

Delaware River Stevedores concurs with the detailed comments and supporting data submitted by ASOEX, the Chilean Exporters Association. Specifically, Delaware River Stevedores urges the agency to reject the proposed change in the regulatory period.